

the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVI, No.17
September 11, 2024
christchurchtyler.org

FROM THE RECTOR:

Established by Saint Comgall in 558AD in Bangor, Northern Ireland, Bangor Abbey was one of the brightest lights in the European 'Dark Ages.'

The Irish monks committed to three rules – patience, humility, and the love of the Lord.

Their ministry was transformational. Teams from Northern Ireland traveled to Scotland, northern England, France, Switzerland, and northern Italy to evangelize and disciple the German tribes who had overrun the Roman Empire in the 5th century. Deeply learned, their scriptoriums produced exceptional copies of the Bible, and they prepared copies of other essential works of Greek and Roman literature which would likely have been lost without their efforts.

At the heart of their life at the Abbey, though, was worship.

The monks gathered for worship nine times a day. And the center of their worship was prayer and singing. They sang the Psalms and great hymns night and day. At its height, well over three hundred monks, from throughout the Christian world, lived, worked, and worshipped at Bangor Abbey. And they founded hundreds of monasteries and schools throughout western Europe.

Autumn is near, and a new season is coming to Christ Church. Exciting new Sunday school classes, neighborhood groups, Bible studies and more are beginning. But the heart of our life together is worship.

I invite you to renew your commitment to weekly worship. Nurture your love of the Lord though offering God your prayers and your praise in church every week.

I am thrilled to join you for worship once again. See you on Sunday morning!

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,

David



The Blessing of the Pets

On Sunday, October 6, we will have the Christ Church annual blessing of the pets at Bergfeld Park. This blessing always takes place on the Sunday following the Feast Day of St. Francis which in the Church Calendar is on October 4. St. Francis is probably the most well-known and most loved of all the saints. Francis is remembered, even by many non-Christians, for his love of nature. There are many back yards in Tyler with a concrete statue of the saint with a bird perched on his shoulder.

This is from Father James Martin's book *My Life with the Saints*:

The Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi is a compendium of charming stories about the saint. While a number of them are clearly legendary, they effectively convey many of the saint's most important qualities: his gentle spirit, his love of nature, his desire for peace. Included, for example, is the tale of Francis preaching to the swallows (who are



rudely disturbing the Masses with their loud chirping). My favorite is the story of the wolf of Gubbio, a fearsome animal who has so terrorized the town that both men and women are afraid to venture beyond its walls. Taking pity on Gubbio, Francis decides to speak with "friar wolf." *The Little Flowers* recounts what happens after Francis asks the wolf if there can be peace between him and the town.

At these words, the wolf, by movements of his body and tail and eyes, and by bowing his head, showed that he accepted what St. Francis said and was determined to observe it. Thereupon St. Francis spoke to him again, saying, "Friar wolf, because it seems good to you to make and keep this peace, I promise you that, so long as you shall live, I will cause you to be fed regularly by the men of this city, so that you shall no more suffer hunger. For I know full well that whatever evil you have done, you have done out of hunger. But seeing that I beg for you this grace, I desire, friar wolf, that you should promise me that never from now on will you injure any human being or any animal. Do you promise me this?" And the wolf, by bowing his head, gave evidence that he promised it. . . . Then St. Francis held forth his hand to receive his fealty, and the wolf lifted up his right forepaw

and put it with friendly confidence in the hand of St. Francis, giving thereby such token of fealty as he was able. Then St. Francis said, "Friar wolf, I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come now with me, in confidence, and let us go and establish this peace in the name of God." And the wolf went with him obediently, like a gentle lamb, at which the citizens marveled greatly.

The wolf, by the way, holds to his promise. He becomes a welcome visitor to Gubbio who "entered familiarly into its houses" and was "courteously nourished" by the inhabitants. And when he died, friar wolf was lamented, for he reminded the citizens of the "virtue and sanctity of St. Francis."

Who knows whether or not this legend is true, but we actually know a lot about Francis' life and the following story is true. While praying in a church in San Damiano, Francis heard Christ speaking to him from the cross telling him to "go and repair my house." So he went to his father's warehouse, stole a bolt of scarlet cloth, sold it, brought the proceeds to the parish priest, and asked to stay there in order that he might help rebuild the church.

Francis' father brought public charges against him, and on April 10, 1206, after being summoned by the bishop to account for his actions, Francis stood before a crowd of townspeople in the square of Assisi, not far from his father's house. The Bishop told Francis to return his father's money and place his trust in God. Francis did what he was told, and Francis added this: "The clothes I wear are also his. I'll give them back." With that, he stripped off his clothes and laid them at his father's feet and stood naked in the square.

The bishop wept, stunned by the force of Francis's actions, and wrapped the young man in his cope. The symbolism was thus complete: Francis had stripped himself of his allegiance to his father (and, incidentally, to his father's business as a cloth merchant) and was wrapped in the protection of the Church. He had thrown himself entirely on God's providence. He had abandoned the pride of his youth. He had embraced a life of radical poverty, in imitation of Christ.

St. Francis' approach to life is relatively simple – "Love them." As our beloved pets are being blessed on October 6, let's remember Francis' love of nature, but perhaps more importantly his imitation of Christ in his love of the outcast and the disinherited.

Blessings in Christ,

Ted+



There were 12 singers in the children's choir on September 8 when they sang for the 10:00 Service. Thank you to the parents for getting them there for rehearsals. Thank you to Suzie Fergus for the great job teaching them!

Here at Christ Church the service of Choral Evensong is held several times a year. This year it will be offered three times with one with a guest choir. In Choral Evensong the choir sings on "behalf of" the congregation. This allows the congregation to meditate and enter into deeper prayer through words and music. I hope that you will mark your calendar now and plan to attend. *There is a reception following the service.*

Save the dates for CHORAL EVENSONG

- November 3** *Downtown, In the Nave, 6:00 p.m.*
All Saints Choral Evensong featuring the Chancel Choir
Jeffrey Ford, *Organist/Choirmaster*; A. J. Meals, *Assistant Organist*
- March 30** *Downtown, In the Nave, 6:00 p.m.*
Featuring the Christ Church Cathedral Choir
Robert L Simpson, *director*
- June 8** *Downtown, In the Nave, 6:00 p.m.*
Featuring Christ Church Chancel Choir & Guests
Jeffrey Ford, *Organist/Choirmaster*; A. J. Meals, *Assistant Organist*

Ushers and Greeters are needed:
for the services of Choral Evensong and for the Tidings of Joy Noontime Concert Series.
Choral Evensong ushers and greeters are headed up by John and Stacey McKinley.
Call Jeffrey Ford to sign up.

Holy Silence: *That is the time of the service where the congregation refrains from speaking or talking to focus one's mind and heart to what is happening in the moment.*

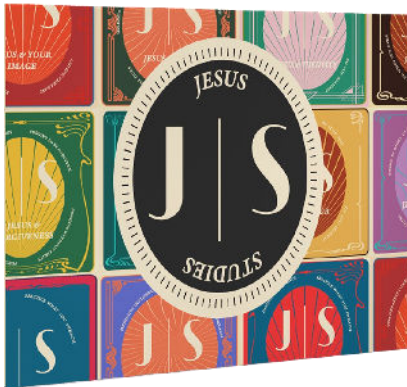
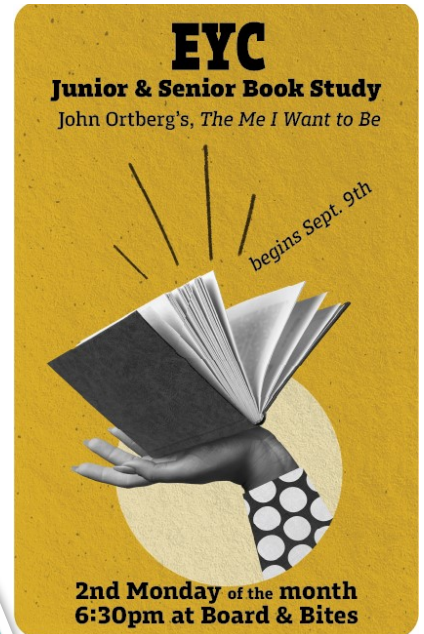
student ministry
Sarah Jones,
Director of Student Ministries



September is here and school is back! We had a great first EYC with 17 kids in attendance and we will have our first EYC just for high schoolers on September 16th. We are seeing some consistent growth in our youth program and I am loving it! Now that we have more kids we are in need of more volunteers, which is an amazing problem to have. We are in need of at least two Sunday school teachers at our downtown campus. A curriculum is provided and I try to keep volunteers to teaching once a month. I am also looking for chaperones for Wednesday night EYC. Now that we consistently have fifteen+ kids having a third person on board is extremely helpful. Chaperones talk with the kids, help monitor pick up, and provide basic supervision. It is something you can do whenever you have time, there is no commitment to help out every week. Thank you so much for supporting our youth group. It takes a village and the youth really enjoy getting to know new people in the church.

If you are interested or have questions please email me.
sjones@christchurchtyler.org

Sarah Jones
Director of Student Ministries



New Sunday School Curriculum

The Jesus Studies series takes prominent topics from teens lives such as identity, stress, mean people, and tough times and teaches what Jesus had to say about them. It is a series that will encourage our youth to be more Christ centered and really start asking, *how can I be a reflection of Jesus' love and teachings in this moment?*



HIGH SCHOOL EYC
[9TH—12TH GRADE]

3rd Monday of the Month | 6:00pm
starts September 16
Downtown 4th Floor



9/14 **Lucius Reynolds**, 9/17 **Blake Birdwell**, 9/18 **Millie Mercer**, 9/18 **Grace Peveto**,
CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS! 9/21 **Atticus Boone**, 9/23 **William Fennell**, 9/24 **Olivia Pogue**

Benediction Breakfasts

Benediction, *noun* | the utterance & bestowing of a blessing

Women

mothers | grandmothers
aunts | sisters | daughters

October 5



Men

fathers | grandfathers
uncles | brothers | sons

October 12

10:00am Christ Church *South Pavilion*

Joining together every generation across the two campuses {benediction}.

Bring along family & friends.

RSVP to www.christchurchtyler/breakfast

the letter to the ephesians

MEN
Tuesdays
8:00am

both meet downtown

WOMEN
Thursdays
10:30am

BIBLE STUDY
with
the Rector

Women's Depth Group

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
6:00pm CCS
beginning September 18

We will be studying from:
The God Parented Soul, The Psalms and Spiritual Formation
Volume 1 by Iris Pearce

Copies are available at no cost for the WDC.

Contact Karen Courville for more information casey@reagan.com

The Gospel of **Mark**

MARCUS

New-Christian Formation begins
October 6 | 10am both campuses

The Feast of
St. Francis of Assisi & the
Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 6, 2024 3:00pm
SW Corner of Bergfeld Park

**thanksgivings , supplications
& fellowship**

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Luba, Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Paul, Sally, Maggie, Jennifer, Laura, Alan, Ginger, Sally, Laura, Ezri, Mark, Analina, Darin, Barbara, Vicky, Amber, Chris, Jerry, Linda, Dalton, Chris, Mike, Mark, Marian, Verdie, Connie, Jeremy, Lauren, Russ, Liam

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of North East India*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Long Island & Los Angeles*

Diocese of Texas: *Christ Church—Eagle Lake & St. Paul's—Freeport*

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine if you'd like to keep or add someone to the prayer list 903.530.8168 or ssti@tjc.edu.

Congratulations on the marriage of:

Alexa Ratcliff

& Connor Shaw

son of Liz Shaw McKinney (& Bob)
& the late Ross Shaw

August 31, 2024

upcoming

FRIDAY, September 13

6:00pm SupperClub *Large Group* meeting
at the Taliaferro's

Wednesday, September 18

6:00pm Women's Depth Group | CCS (see graphic)

SUNDAY, September 22

10:00am Texas Rangers Game departure

FRI & SAT, September 27 & 28

The Mockingbird Conference (see graphic)

SATURDAY, October 5

10:00 Women's Benediction Breakfast | CCS

SUNDAY, October 6

Return to regular service times **DOWNTOWN**

7:30am Rite I Holy Eucharist | CCD

9:00am Rite II Holy Eucharist | CCD

10:00am Christian Formation | CCD & CCS

11:00am Rite I Holy Eucharist | CCD

11:05am Rite II Holy Eucharist | CCS

3:00pm Blessing of the Pets | Bergfeld Park

SATURDAY, October 12

10:00 Men's Benediction Breakfast | CCS

SUNDAY, October 13

12:30pm Newcomers Lunch with the Rector | CCS

SUNDAY, November 3

6:00pm Choral Evensong



THE VESTRY

Mr. Bill Clawater, *Treasurer*

Mr. Tim Alexander, *Asst. Treasurer*

CLASS OF 2024

Mrs. Kim Meyer, Mr. Danny Noteware,

Ms. Sheryl Richter-Jr. *Warden CCS,*

Dr. Dan Toney

CLASS OF 2025

Mr. Julius Bergfeld, Mrs. Catherine Buhrkuhl,

Mr. Steven Comte, Mrs. Karen Hughes,

Mr. Mark Shuttlesworth-Jr. *Warden CCD*

CLASS OF 2026

Mr. Ashley Bracken, Mr. John Bufe-Sr. *Warden,*

Ms. Joyce McGee, Mr. Stan Ward,

Mrs. Ann Weissmann-*Clerk*

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle

Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher
Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan
Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso
Bishop Assistant

The Rev. David Luckenbach
Rector dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin
Associate Rector chartin@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Ted Welty
Associate Rector twelty@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Stephen Stine
Deacon ssi@tjc.edu

The Rev. Tim Kennedy
All Saints Episcopal School Senior Chaplain, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Leesa Lewis
All Saints Episcopal School Assistant Chaplain, Assisting Priest

Mrs. Diana Keesey
Parish Administrator dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford
Organist/Choirmaster jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. A.J. Meals
Assistant Organist mealsa@gladewaterisd.com

Mrs. Sarah Jones
Director of Student Ministries sjones@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. McKinley Terry
Student Ministries Assistant mterry@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Kimber Short
Director of Children's Ministries kshort@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Valerie Huggler
Parish Secretary office@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Samantha Hague
Director of Communications shague@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Robert Finney
Music Leader, Christ Church South epiphanyttx@gmail.com

Ms. Jennifer Ducote *Sexton*
Mr. Anthony Moore *Sexton*
Mr. Kendrick Milton *Assistant Sexton*

Blair Zdenek, Jessi Mayes, Madisyn Bickham,
Priscilla Yeboah *Nursery*

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year B BCP 1979 Lectionary

Sunday, September 15

17 Pentecost | Proper 19

Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 116, James 2:1-5, 8-10, 14-18

Mark 8:27-38 or Mark 9:14-29

Sunday, September 22

18 Pentecost | Proper 20

Wisdom 1:16—2:1 [6-11] 12-22, Psalm 54

James 3:16—4:6, Mark 9:30-37



Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency,
Call the church office during office hours 903.597.9854;
after hours call The Rev. David Luckenbach 903-279-8777,
The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin 903-952-3850,
or The Rev. Stephen Stine, Deacon, 903-530-8168.



Christ Church | Episcopal
118 S. Bois d'Arc
Tyler, TX 75702

903.597.9854
office@christchurchtyler.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.christchurchtyler.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays through September

7:30am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

10:00am~ **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist

11:05am~ **CCS:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

~live-streamed christchurchtyler.org

CHRIST CHURCH: ONE CHURCH—TWO CAMPUSES

CCD: Christ Church *Downtown*, 118 S. Bois d' Arc, Tyler, TX 75702 (office address)

CCS: Christ Church *South*, 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703

www.christchurchtyler.org | office@christchurchtyler.org

Please Note: *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly (once in July & December).
If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, please contact
Samantha Hague at 903-597-9854, shague@christchurchtyler.org.



*The vision of Christ Church is
to be recognized as a joyful,
spirit-filled community of
apostles reaching out and
transforming lives for Christ.*